

Message Text

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14

ACTION STR-04

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 FEA-01 AGRE-00

CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FRB-03 H-02

INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05

CIEP-01 SS-15 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3993

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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PASS STR AND AGRICULTURE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, GATT

SUBJECT: AUSTRALIAN ARTICLE XXII:1 CONSULTATIONS WITH JAPAN ON
BEEF IMPORT RESTRICTIONS

REF: 75 GENEVA 8305

1. WHEN THE 1975 ARTICLE XXII CONSULTATIONS WITH JAPAN
ON BEEF IMPORT RESTRICTIONS WERE CONCLUDED, AUSTRALIA
RESERVED THE RIGHT TO RESUME THEM AGAIN IN CASE JAPAN
CONTINUES TO APPLY RESTRICTIVE IMPORT MEASURES.
AUSTRALIA HAS NOW ASKED FOR A RESUMPTION OF THESE
CONSULTATIONS. FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF A LETTER
DATED NOVEMBER 19, 1976, FROM THE AUSTRALIAN TO TME
JAPANESE DELEGATION IN GENEVA WHICH IS BEING CIRCULATED
TO THE CONTRACTING PARTIES (L/4452).

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BEGIN TEXT

AUSTRALIA: RESUMPTION OF ARTICLE XXII:I CONSULTATIONS ON JAPANESE
RESTRICTIONS ON IMPORTS OF BOVINE MEAT

I REFER TO THE RECENT ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT
THAT JAPAN WILL RESTRICT THE LEVEL OF ITS BEEF IMPORTS TO
20,000 TONS FOR THE SECOND HALF OF ITS 1976/77 FISCAL YEAR AND TO
THE ADVICE THAT THIS LEVEL OF ACCESS WILL BE REASSESSED AT A
LATER DATE.

SINCE THE LIFTING IN 1975 OF THE JAPANESE EMBARGO ON IMPORTS OF
BEEF THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT HAS CONTINUED TO EMPHASIZE TO THE
RELEVANT JAPANESE AUTHORITIES THE IMPORTANCE OF A STABLE AND
PREDICTABLE TRADE IN BEEF. THIS LATEST ANNOUNCEMENT OF A QUOTA
OF ONLY 20,000 TONS REPRESENTS A SUBSTANTIAL REDUCTION IN THE
PROSPECTIVE LEVEL OF JAPANESE IMPORTS OF BEEF AT A TIME WHEN
AUSTRALIAN PRODUCERS ARE ALREADY EXPERIENCEING SEVERE
DIFFICULTIES WITH ACCESS TO OVERSEAS MARKETS.

I HAVE, ACCORDINGLY, BEEN INSTRUCTED TO ADVISE YOU OF THE
AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT'S DESIRE TO RESUME THE GATT ARTICLE XXII
CONSULTATIONS ON JAPAN'S RESTRICTIONS ON IMPORTS OF BOVINE MEAT.
IT IS DESIRED THAT THE NEXT ROUND OF THESE CONSULTATIONS BE HELD
IN GENEVA AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

PARTICULAR ASPECTS OF THE JAPANESE RESTRICTIONS ON WHICH IT IS
DESIRED TO CONSULT INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

(A) THE CONSISTENCY OF JAPAN'S BEEF IMPORT RESTRICTIONS WITH ITS
OBLIGATIONS, AND AUSTRALIA'S RIGHTS, UNDER THE GENERAL AGREEMENT;

(B) THE PROVISIONS OF THE GATT UNDER WHICH JAPAN JUSTIFIES IN-
CREASED RESTRICTIONS AT THIS TIME ON ACCESS TO THE JAPANESE BEEF
MARKET; END TEXT. CATTO

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Message Attributes

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